

December 6, 2009

Second Sunday of Advent

Saint John Vianney

A Mission Church of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish serving you since August 10, 1997

1000 26th Ave NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144

www.stjohnvianneyparish.org



Friends in Christ,

Happy Advent.

As Advent Season now enters its second week, and as we continue to contemplate the future, second coming of our Lord, it is the time to carefully take a self evaluation. In the midst of all the running around, shopping, and Holiday get-togethers, you and I should take time away from the noise, to sit quietly with God, and examine our consciences. What wrong have you and I done over the course of this passing year? What good have we failed to do? And noting whatever it is that we are not proud of, we then take it to our Lord--we repent of it, confess it, be absolved from it, do penance for it, and be freed from it. There is no better way receive our Lord than to do so with a clean soul.

Have a blessed Advent.

Fr Scott Mansfield

See You Tuesday

Holy Rosary
20 Minutes before each mass

Holy Masses
Saturday4:00PM
Sunday8:00AM
Sunday..... 10:00AM

Sacrament of Confession
Saturday 3:00-3:45PM

Upcoming Events
Holy Day of Obligation 7:00PM Mass, December 8th
1st Sunday of every month..... Food Collection for St. Felix Pantry

New Parishioners St. John Vianney

Oswaldo & Aida Vasquez
Jacob & Alejandra Campos
Rose Mary Acosta-Ortiz

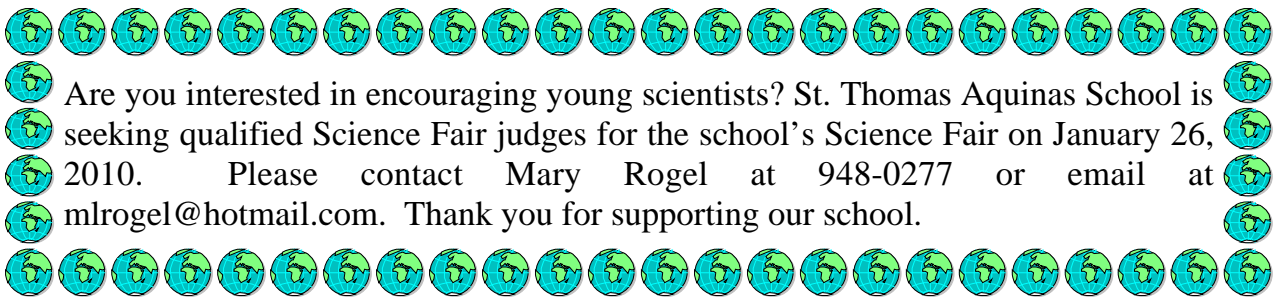
David & Debbie Brasher
Ricardo Vasquez
Mark & Dora



Bring you money and support
the Cub Scouts and
your stomach.
Cub Scout Burrito
Sunday December 6th



Tony's Toy



Are you interested in encouraging young scientists? St. Thomas Aquinas School is seeking qualified Science Fair judges for the school's Science Fair on January 26, 2010. Please contact Mary Rogel at 948-0277 or email at mlrogel@hotmail.com. Thank you for supporting our school.

Why didn't the skeleton go to the Christmas Party? He had no body to go with!

Please remember to collect toys and other gifts for the needy while the sales are on! We will be having our annual gift wrapping party soon and everyone is invited to participate. Julie

~VOLUNTEERS NEEDED~

Every other Friday @ 10 a.m. to help tidy up
St. John Vianney Mission Church
Show up or Please call Loretta @ 891-9234

The Knights of Columbus in Rio Rancho rent out their hall for your receptions, meetings, birthday parties, and family gatherings. Please call 896-5599 or 792-0663 for more info.

Thank You to everyone who purchased a Raffle Tickets at this last Pot Luck. We raised \$190.00 that will go toward a much needed ladder for decorating and cleaning windows.

ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW

The STA Altar and Rosary Society will be selling prints of a beautiful reproduction painting done by Deacon Tom Burns of STA. The 8x10 prints of "La Madonna Nina" (aka "The Madonna of the Streets") will be sold for \$5 each at the A&RS Religious Articles Sales. You can also call Saralee at 792-5516 to reserve your print.

Faith and Finances with Phil Lenahan © – www.VeritasFinancialMinistries.com

Lending Money to Family and Friends

- ◆ During tough economic times, it's not uncommon for family members in a pinch to ask for help. Is it ever wise to lend money to those close to you?
- ◆ Scripture describes debt in a cautious manner. Proverbs 22:26-27 says, "Be not one of those who give pledges, who become surety for debts. If you have nothing with which to pay, why should your bed be taken from under you?" Combine this caution with debt being between family, and the risk of harm to the relationship is multiplied.
- ◆ That doesn't mean we shouldn't provide help to those in need, especially those closest to us. The Gospel is clear on that point (Mt. 25:35-40). But you should ask yourself whether your assistance will help your family member, or rather enable them to continue harmful behavior?
- ◆ Our goal should be to help those we love become the best person they can be. Sometimes that requires mercy and sometimes that requires "tough love." It can be difficult to know which is needed, so pray and seek counsel. If we err, we should err on the side of mercy. After all, that's what our Lord does!
- ◆ Finally, unless it's clear the recipient will be able to repay the loan, it probably makes more sense to provide assistance in the form of a gift. That will avoid creating ongoing tension resulting from unpaid debts. Providing your assistance through a gift also helps you be more realistic about how much you can actually afford to help. God love you!

Snackers are wanted. Or should we say snack servers are wanted. This is a unique ministries in that it allows the whole family to get involved. If you are interested please see a snacker (those serving snacks and drinks) after mass and they we answer any questions you may have.



Observations on Growing Older

~You realize you're never going to be really good at anything

... especially golf.

Archdiocese of Santa Fe Pilgrimages for Vocations

2010 Theme "You Are The Beloved" Matthew 3:16-17

To find out more visit the website for May and June Pilgrimages.

Take a week to walk with Christ in devotional prayer and sacrifice.

<http://pilgrimagesforvocations.org/>

**Receive our bulletin
via eMail**

Visit our website at
www.sjvnm.org and click
on **Subscribe** to be added
to the eMailing list.

WATCH SPECIAL EWTN CHRISTMAS PROGRAMMING Join EWTN Global Catholic Network in celebrating the birth of the Christ Child. EWTN is proud to bring you LIVE Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses from Rome and the Basilica of the National Shrine in Washington, D.C., as well as inspiring musical performances, animated features, specials for children and teens, and new holiday presentations the whole family will enjoy. Watch EWTN on Cable One 58, DirecTV 370 & Dishnetwork 261.

I Believe by Carl E. Beyer

These two words, “I believe”, can change your life. For this discussion we are going to use these two words in a religious context. “I Believe” could be broadly applied. It could be used as simply as “I Believe”, I have a keyboard that allows me to type this article. This belief in my keyboard is, of course, easy to prove, while “I Believe” in a religious content is mostly based on faith.

This article, as is all my articles, is written based on my opinion so please read further in that frame of mind. What I desire most is that when you read any of my articles, you will take the opportunity to develop your own opinions; if I have been able to contribute favorably in forming a positive opinion, then be sure to thank God, not me, for I am simply an instrument of His making.

I place believers in several categories: lazy believers, non-believers, baby believers, convert believers, re-born believers, explorer believers, fake believers and active believers. While I believe some categories of believers are religiously superior to others, certainly most of us will fall into several categories.

The lazy believer is someone who goes to church faithfully and, if asked, will tell you they believe in God. However they have not expended any effort to know their God nor to make any clarification of what they believe in. I would imagine that God is pleased with their belief but it must sadden Him that they do not find Him worthy of getting to know better. The Church, to these believers, can become more of a habit than a belief. A good habit, but how much more enjoyable would it be if they went to church because of their love for God and His Church.

Non-believer as a classification is usually an oxymoron because very few people do not believe in some sort of higher power. There are those few that believe we are born and then die and that is it. Even that is a belief, but for our classification we will say a non-believer is someone who does not believe there is one God. These people need our prayers the most because they are lost souls. Usually this is a person whose intellect gets in the way of belief. These non-believers will read the Bible and find some things that are illogical and because of that abandon the Bible as a whole. Logic and belief can be direct opposites to each other and cause some people to get confused. The Bible was inspired by God; not written by God.

Baby believers are those who have had their faith spoon fed. From their birth to the present day their families have been firm believers and lived their lives surrounded by God. Their faith is can be very strong because that is the only belief they have ever seen, heard and/or lived. Unfortunately, they may not have actually explored why and what they believe. While they attend church and perform their church obligation, when questioned, they can not explain their beliefs and those of the Church.

Convert believers are those who come to our Roman Catholic faith from other religions. These wonderful people are often the strongest supporters of the Church. They have taken the time to examine their beliefs and been drawn into the one true Church. If you want to know how wonderful it is to have these people in our Roman Catholic Church, just look in the yellow pages under churches and see all the choices they had to choose from and yet they were led to us. Thank you to each and every convert in our Church especially those who are so active in the

[Continued on next page ...](#)

... continued from previous page

Church.

Re-born believers are those who were raised Roman Catholic but got lost for a little while, usually in their teen years. If you speak to them they have often tried hard to reject the Church but a power beyond anything they can explain draws them back. To them this feeling is akin to being on a long trip and coming home. Welcome back! Our Church home would not be complete without you.

Explorer believers are those that explore all the various religions to find the one that most closely aligned to their beliefs and comfort. There are wide varieties of beliefs outside of the Christians beliefs. These people are great supporters of the Church because they have spent the time to find out what the various religions believe and found their home with us.

Fake believers are those who attend church and say they believe for social or political reasons. Our hope is that their heart may follow their feet. What a sad commentary to use our Lord's house to collaborate in committing a sin. May God change their hearts!!

Active believers, if I may say, are my favorite. They take the time to examine their beliefs and are in constant study of the Lord. Active believers are often those in volunteer positions at the Church because they want to volunteer and please God. "I believe" should have an active component. Does God not deserve our time? Take the time to read and study the Bible. Read the works of our wise Saints which comprise the active exploration of their beliefs.

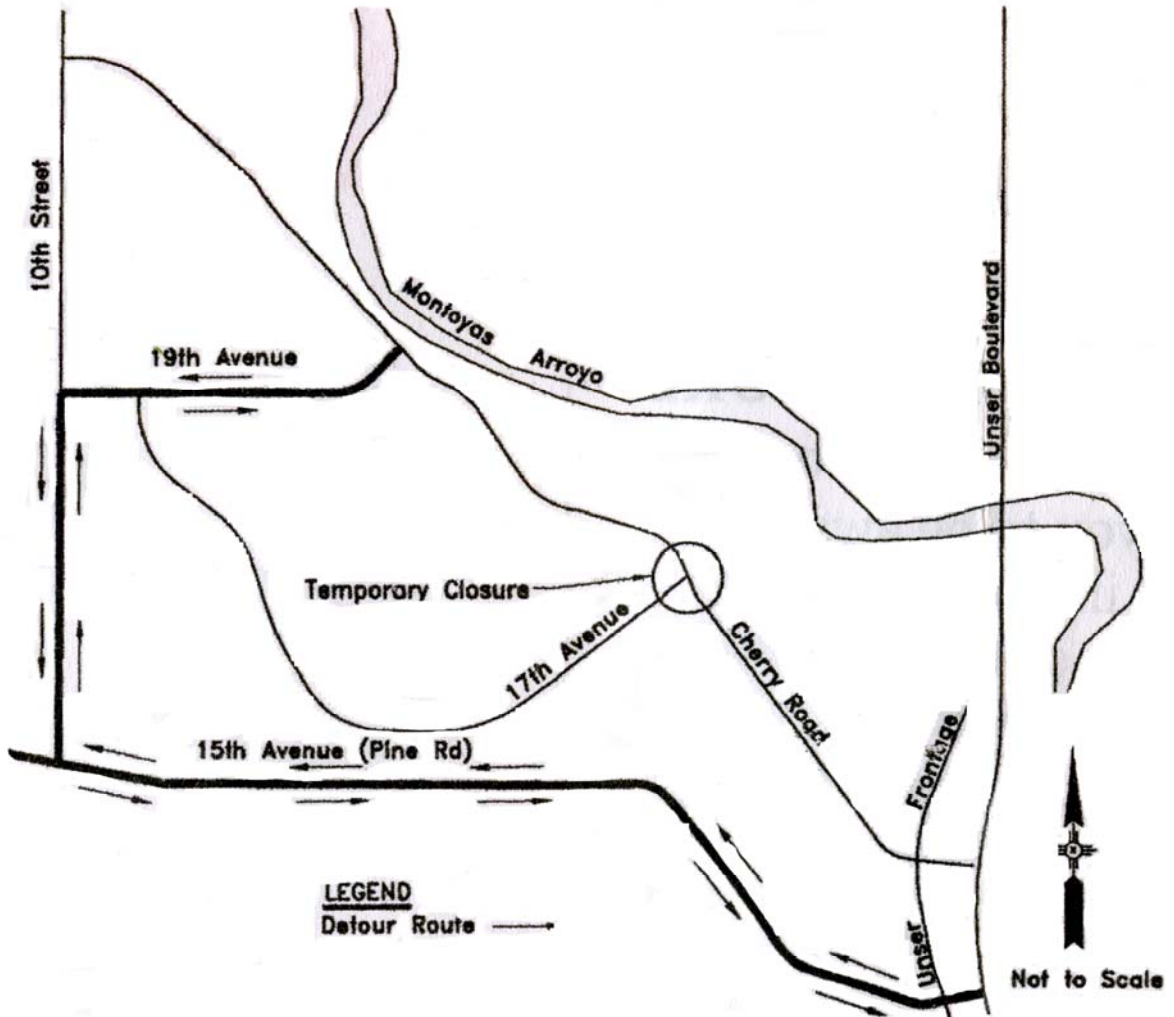
So how many different categories did you find that you fit into? The better question may be what category would you prefer to fit into? Dust off that Bible that been sitting next to your bed all these years and start reading. A good place to start is with a visit to the religious store Holy Family at 9469 Coors Blvd NW to seek out some answers. Deacon Roger Ayers, at Holy Family, will spend the time with you on picking out that book to get you started.

So why do I believe? I was raised to be a good drinker. My parents owned a bar and they spent much of their time in bars. My childhood was not anti-religious just empty of any religion. We never gave thanks and certainly never went to church. When I was twenty-one the Our Father was prayed at my step-father's funeral. Most attending knew this prayer except me, and probably most of my family. This powerful prayer amazed me and I explored it. It was about this time that I started my exploration of God and Church. It was not until My Lord sent me my believing wife that I explored and joined the Roman Catholic Church. Being baptized at twenty-eight seemed as natural and as easy as I find believing in Jesus. I was home. In its gentleness, the Church had me go through RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) to examine the beliefs of the Church and to be sure that they were beliefs I could follow and believe in. It was a blessed time receiving the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist and Matrimony in a single day followed by our first born ten months later. With all of God's blessings my logical conclusion is that "I Believe".

Go forth and believe. Go forth and examine what you believe. Go forth and explore the beauty of our Lord. God Bless you all.

Went to an atheist funeral the other day...
Poor fellow, all dressed up and nowhere to go.

Atheist: What's this fly doing in my soup?
Waiter: Praying.
Atheist: Very funny. I can't eat this. Take it back.
Waiter: You see? The fly's prayers were answered.



Road Closure

The intersection of 17th and Cherry will be closed from November 23rd till January 22nd. Please utilize the above map for the alternative route to St. John Vianney Mission Church. If you miss the Pine Road turn off head up Unser; turn left at King; take a left on 10th and proceed to Mass.

Thank you for reading our bulletin.

Any suggestions, comments, prayers or articles can be sent to bulletin@sjvnm.org. We also like to hear about births, baptisms, marriages or other news about our church members.

*Happy
Advent*

	Sacristans	Ushers	EM of Holy Communion	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors
Sat Dec 5th 4:00PM	David Crawford	Therese Lopez J.D. Strickland Mike Philbin	Rosie Root	Bill McCarty	Josh Storms James Uhrich Kyle Herkenhoff	David Crawford Peggy Riley
Sun Dec 6th 8:00AM	Julie Burnside	Tom Anderson Bill Deneen John Christensen Carl Beyler	Julie Burnside	Sheila Howard	Peter Lucero Charles Lucero Shane Herrera	Jose Guillen Geneva Torres
Sun Dec 6th 10:00AM	Margaret Chavez	Tony Quinones Aaron Quinones Nick Coca III Ariana Eck	April Karen McClellan Carrie Jenkins Teresa Medrano	Rochelle Quinones	Jessica VLS Jamie VLS Azura McClellan Krista Savela	Connie Dudon Lillian Ortiz
Tue Dec 8th 7:00PM		Brian Padilla Juan Serna Tony Quinones James Sandoval	Carrie Jenkins David Schutten John Lombardo	Rochelle Quinones	Ariana Jenkins Angela Jenkins Peter Lucero Drew Garcia	Pinky Bjornstad Pam McCarty
Sat Dec 12th 4:00PM	David Crawford	Phillip Griego Bill Deneen Juan Serna	Pinky Bjornstad	Pinky Bjornstad	Victoria Perez Josh Kast Delaney Kast	Annette Montoya Vicky Howell
Sun Dec 13th 8:00AM	Donna Madrid	Mike Philbin James E Dory Jim Cutler David Schutten	Jeremy McClellan	Frances Perko	Albert Ibarra Shane Herrera Dominic Ortiz	Petrita Lopez Peggy Riley
Sun Dec 13th 10:00AM	Geri Hoover	Tony Quinones Aaron Quinones Gary Vigil Eddie Crespín	April Karen McClellan John Lombardo Teresa Medrano	Bill McCarty	Jacob Valdez Karla Del Cid Delicia Garcia Rocky Peyton	Rosie Root Michael Tafuro

Prayer Corner

Let us join as a community in prayer for our fellow parishioners and/or their family members.

- ◆ For Sister Marguerite Bartz soul. God Bless Her.(11/15)
- ◆ For Fr. Whorton on his deployment, and his family, that they all remain under God's loving care. (Till he returns)
- ◆ For the strength and courage of the disabled, sick, elderly, and dying
- ◆ For our country leaders to make the right decision for the well being of our country.
- ◆ For guidance to our leaders for the removal of the stain of abortion.
- ◆ All our brave men and women of the world keeping their country free.
- ◆ For the lonely that they find comfort in the heart of Our Blessed Mother Mary as she too suffered the loneliness of Christ's death.

Prayers are kept on the list for a month then need to be resubmitted.

Thank you for your prayers.

Debi Wendt - Realtor Discovery I 263-7095 Cellular 898-4660 Direct mariska564@aol.com	For information on advertising eMail ads@sjvnm.org	"THE GROOM ROOM" PET GROOMING IN RR NORTHERN MEADOWS PLEASE CALL ROSE AT: (505)948-0989
---	---	--

Holy Family Catholic Religious Supplies 9469 Coors Blvd NW, Albuquerque 87114 505-898-4659	Top Quality Replacement Windows Starting at \$185 any size, White Double Hung, <i>installed. Call David @ 505-306-0614</i>
--	--

Five-O-Five Computer Service Maint / repair / consult parish mbr 891-9718	Harris Jewelers & Gemologists Casa de Oro / Custom Design 909 36th Place SE, Rio Rancho, 87124 (505) 892-3841 www.harriscasadeoro.com	Support our advertisers and give them a call
---	--	--

 J Mac Electric Need an electrician? license # 33748 and Insured SERVICE CALLS 505.252.1030	New Mexico Net Your NM information resource www.nmnet.org
--	---

**Let it snow, Let it Snow,
 Let it Snow**

Parish Directory	
Vicar	Rev. Scott Mansfield
Coordinator.....	Ed Uhrich
Communications.....	Carl E. Beyer
Finance Building Chair.....	James Sandoval
Pastoral Chair	Ed Uhrich
Head Sacristan	Gerry Hoover
Head Usher.....	Carl E. Beyer
Head Altar Servers	Ed Uhrich
Head Lector	Peggy Riley
Head EM	Pinky Bjornstad
Head CCD	Edwinna Herrera
Head Snacker.....	Harlan Harrington
Head Grounds and Interior Cleaning.....	Coz Madrid
Head Welcoming Ministry	Loretta Tafuro
Parish Website.....	www.sjvnm.org
Concerns / Questions.....	892-1511
Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals	St Thomas Parish - 892-1511

IN GOD WE TRUST